THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) "ROSNI" or Round Spermatid Nuclear Injection Technique is a new technique in the field of test tube baby and this artificial reproductive technology has been developed at Jaipur Fertility and Microsurgery Research Centre. ROSNI offers alternative solutions for men with non-obstructive azoosoermia and testicular foci of spermatogenesis up to round spermatid stage. In this technique, the eggs are retrieved from female partner, after ovulation induction under transvaginal sonography guidance, like any routine In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) procedure. At the same time, testicular issue is taken from husband and round spermatids (haploid) nuclei are extracted from it and injected directly in to the oocytes like intracytoplamic sperm injection (ICSI) technique. The fertilized egg or embryo is transferred back to uterus on day 3 of retrieval. Confirmation of pregnancy is done by blood test (S. BhCG) after 15 days.

However, the fertilization rate as well as pregnancy rate (about 5%) using round spermatids is far less than that reported by conventional "Test Tube Baby Technique". Moreover, the safety of using round spermatozoa in this technique is still being debated. Some reports suggest that the spermatids (recovered from patients with complete spermiogenesis failure) are often deficient in the factor(s) responsible for oocyte activation which could result in abnormal fertilization and the impairment of preimplantation and post-implantation development of foetus. Besides this, there are other reports which have also expressed concern about the possible health hazards for children resulting from the use of spermatids for assisted reproduction.

The first report of success by this procedure came in 1995 (Tesarik et al, 1995 Tesarik & Mendoza, 1996). However, this technique has not been universally accepted and certain countries have banned this technique, *e.g.* U.K.

In the light of the available data, it is essential to go slow in using the technique ROSNI to treat infertility.

NGOs in the management of PHCs

515. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose a scheme for involving private medical colleges and non-governmental organizations in the management of Primary Health Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government plans to handover PHCs to NGOs for their management; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The responsibility of establishing financing and managing Primary Health Centres (PHCs) is that of the State Governments.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Karnataka Government has formulated a scheme for involving Private Medical Colleges and other agencies in the management of low performing PHCs. As per this scheme Private Medical and dental Colleges and Non-Governmental Organizations, Trusts and other charitable institutions may either directly manage the PHCs or contribute to the improvement of the facilities. As per the guidelines laid down, private medical colleges or NGOs would be handed over the PHCs for implementation of all National and State Health & Family welfare Programmes. Under this Scheme, the private agencies will be eligible for financial support from Government towards recurring expenditures subject to conditions, such as, providing services to patients as per State policy; furnishing of returns and audited statements etc. Private Trusts and charitable individuals can also adopt PHCs and Sub-centres for providing contributions of Rs. 50,000 to 1,00,000 to a PHC/Sub-centre.

Institutions providing education and practice in Yoga and Naturopathy

516. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain institutions in the country are providing education and practice in Yoga and Naturopathy;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to regulate these courses being run by these institutions by enacting a law;

(c) if so, by when such a law is likely to be enacted; and

(d) if not, reasons therefore?